1,38,500 MT and the present monthly allocation is 9,000 MT.

(c) to (e) The allocation of import ed edible oils including palmolein is made to States/UTs. keeping in view the reasonable demand from States/ UTs., prices of indigenous oils in the open market, availability of foreign exchange, stocks of oil with STC, fes tival reasons, and other related facr tors. Allocation of imported edible oils is to supplement the availability of indigenous edible oils in the open market rather than to meet the entire requirement of the State/UT.

Financial assistance *to* washermen Community in Andhra Pradesh

2821. SHEI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes being implemented by the Central Government for the development of Washermen Community in the countiy;

(b) whether these schemes are being implemented in Andhra Pradesh;

(c)' whether Government also propose to give financial assistance for the development of washermen community in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINTSTRY OF WELFARE (SMT. SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (e) The Central Government does not have any scheme exclusively for the benefit of the washerman community. They can derive benefits from the schemes of Scheduled Castes in the Stales where they are listed as Srheluled Castes. In some States which also include Andhra Pradesh they are listed as- Other Backward Classes for whom there ls no Central Government scheme since Other Backward Classes are looked after by the respective State Governments.

2822. *[Transferred* to *the* 6th De cember, 1988]

National system for prevention of occupational accidents in industries

2823. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to strengthen the national system for prevention of occupational accidents in industries;

(b) the period for which the project is likely to continue; and

(c) what are the details of factories identified by Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (c) By an amendment to the Factories Act, 1948, a separate chapter on "hazardous processes" was incorporated which provides for setting up of Site Appraisal Committees for grant of permission for initial location and expansion of existing factories involving a hazardous process, compulsory disclosure of information by the occupier, specific responsibility of occupier in relation to hazardous pro-cesses prvoision for laying down standards, permissible limits of exposure of chemical and toxic substances, preparation of on-site and off-site emergency plans, workers' participation in safety management etc.

The Ministry of Labour is implementing an ILO Project on "Establishment and inital operation of major acoident hazard control system in India". The main objective of this Project is to strengthen the national system for the prevention of occupational accidents to enable identification, analysis and control of industrial